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FACT SHEET

PROPOSED SUPPLEMENT TO THE PROPOSED AIR TOXICS REGULATIONS FOR FERROALLOYS PRODUCTION, MINERAL WOOL PRODUCTION, PRIMARY LEAD SMELTING, AND WOOL FIBERGLASS MANUFACTURING

TODAY'S ACTION...

- ◆ The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing a supplement to the proposed regulations to reduce emissions of air toxics from the source categories of ferroalloys production, mineral wool production, primary lead smelting, and wool fiberglass manufacturing. Air toxics, also known as hazardous air pollutants, are those pollutants that are known or suspected of causing cancer or other serious health and environmental effects.
- ◆ This supplement to the proposed regulations proposes changes to the approach for determining compliance for owners or operators of fabric filters (i.e., baghouses) with bag leak detection systems, proposes changes to the approach for determining compliance through the use of defined monitoring parameters for air pollution control equipment and/or manufacturing processes, and proposes to add performance evaluation requirements for temperature monitoring devices.

WHAT WOULD BE THE HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS?

- ◆ Today's proposed supplement is expected to improve the clarity and enforceability of the proposed regulations and to provide greater assurance that affected air pollution control equipment and manufacturing processes are properly operated and maintained.

BACKGROUND

- ◆ Under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, EPA is required to regulate sources of 188 listed toxic air pollutants. (Note that this list originally contained 189 pollutants, but EPA has subsequently removed the chemical caprolactam from the list.) On July 16, 1992, EPA published a list of industrial source categories that emit one or more of these air toxics. For listed categories of "major" sources (those that emit ten tons/year or more of a listed pollutant or twenty-five tons/year or more of a combination of listed pollutants), the Clean Air Act requires EPA to develop standards that require the application of stringent air pollution controls, known as maximum achievable control technology.

- ◆ EPA's published list of industry categories to be regulated includes ferroalloys production, mineral wool production, primary lead smelting, and wool fiberglass manufacturing. Regulations to reduce emissions of air toxics have been proposed for each of these source categories.

WHAT WOULD THE PROPOSED SUPPLEMENT REQUIRE?

- ◆ Today's proposed supplement would enhance the proposed requirements in all four proposed regulations regarding bag leak detection systems to include an enforceable operating limit, such that the owner or operator would be in violation of the regulation's operating limit if the alarm on a bag leak detection system sounds for more than five percent of the total operating time in each six-month reporting period. This supplement also proposes that owners and operators be required to continuously record bag leak detection system output.
- ◆ EPA is proposing to delete the requirement in the previously proposed regulations for mineral wool production and wool fiberglass manufacturing to develop and implement a quality improvement plan when the alarm on a bag leak detection system sounds for more than five percent of the total operating time in each six-month reporting period.
- ◆ This supplement would also add performance evaluation requirements for temperature monitoring devices used on incinerators that are employed by mineral wool production and wool fiberglass manufacturing facilities and on cold top electric furnaces that are employed by wool fiberglass manufacturing facilities.
- ◆ The proposed regulation for wool fiberglass manufacturing contains a number of operating parameters for air pollution control equipment and manufacturing processes. This supplement would impose an enforceable operating limit, such that the owner or operator would be in violation of the regulation's operating limit if the parameter(s) being monitored deviate from the established limits for more than five percent of the total operating time, instead of the previously proposed ten percent of the total operating time, during each six-month reporting period.

HOW MUCH WOULD TODAY'S SUPPLEMENTAL PROPOSAL COST?

- ◆ Due to the nature of the supplement to the proposed rules, EPA anticipates that there will be very little additional cost associated with its implementation.
- ◆ Revision of the requirements regarding bag leak detection systems on fabric filters such that it would be a violation of the operating limit if the alarm sounds for more than five percent of the total operating time in each six-month reporting period would not impose any cost on the affected firms.

- ◆ The only additional cost associated with the proposed requirement to continuously record bag leak detection system output would be the cost of a data recording system (e.g., strip chart). Capital and annual costs for a strip chart are estimated to be \$1,500 and \$1,550, respectively, per bag leak detection system.
- ◆ Because the performance evaluation requirements for temperature monitoring devices simply provide uniform guidance on how to meet the requirements in the proposed regulations for mineral wool production and wool fiberglass manufacturing to properly calibrate, operate, and maintain all monitoring devices, there would be no additional cost resulting from this proposed revision.
- ◆ Revision of the approach for determining compliance through the use of air pollution control equipment and process operating parameters in the proposed regulation for wool fiberglass manufacturing would also not impose any cost on the affected firms.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION...

- ◆ Interested parties can download the proposed supplement to the proposed rule, including the proposed regulatory text, from EPA's website on the Internet under "recent actions" at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg>. For further information about today's supplement to the proposed rules, contact:

Ferroalloys Production - Conrad Chin of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) at (919) 541-1512.

Mineral Wool Production - Mary Johnson of EPA's OAQPS at (919) 541-5025.

Primary Lead Smelting - Kevin Cavender of EPA's OAQPS at (919) 541-2364.

Wool Fiberglass Manufacturing - Bill Neuffer of EPA's OAQPS at (919) 541-5435.

- ◆ EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's home page on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the air toxics program, as well as many other air pollution programs and issues. The Office of Air and Radiation's home page address is: <http://www.epa.gov/oar>.